# Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee Updates

*Presented to the Public Safety Communications Advisory Commission*

**Mark Venuti and Mike Sacco, SIEC Co-Chairs**

*November 19, 2013*

Public Safety Interoperable
Communications Office

# Meeting Overview

- The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee held a public meeting on Tuesday October 15, 2013

- Agenda items included:

  - Call to Order

  - Approval of Meeting Minutes

  - Annual Review of Technical Policies, Standards and Procedures
  - Update on Arizona Public Safety Broadband
  - Public Comments

- The bulk of the meeting centered on the review of the technical PSPs

# Annual Review Process

- The Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Office established a standard annual review cycle to ensure each Policy, Standard or Procedure (PSP) is kept up to date and stakeholders have an opportunity to request changes and provide input.

- Each quarter, a set of PSPs will be presented for internal review, workgroup review and public comment.

- Third quarter reviews involve the technical PSPs:
  - Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) State Plan - Standard Operating Procedures
  - Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement and Sustainability Plan
  - Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards
  - Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan
    » Priority Programming Guide

# AIRS State Plan –
# Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

- The Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) State Plan - Standard Operating Procedures was approved by the SIEC with the following changes:
  - Removal of NIFOG tables from AIRS SOP (They are found in the Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan)
  - Updated the AIRS Regional Monitoring Assignments
  - Updated the AIRS Suite Location Map
  - Added new definitions section
  - Changed format to comply with new standardized PSP Style Template

- The revised SOP has been posted to the PSIC website and emailed to interested parties.

- No action by the PSCC is required.

# AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan

- AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan was approved by the SIEC with the following changes:
  - Generic contact information to replace specific people's contact information in the document
  - Spelling and grammar corrections
  - Moved the definitions section from an appendix to the appropriate location in the document
  - Changed format to comply with new standardized PSP Style Template
- The revised plan has been posted to the PSIC website and emailed to interested parties.
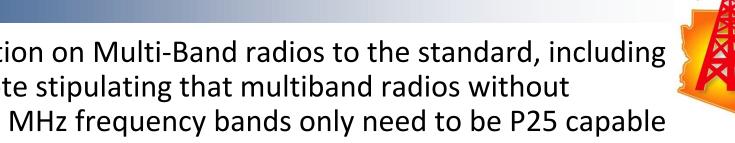- No action by the PSCC is required.

# Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards

- The Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standard was established to implement certain radio features, nationally recognized to promote and maintain a higher level of interoperable communications among and between public safety jurisdictions and disciplines. It is recommended that all mobile and portable radio equipment purchased for the purposes of public safety emergency response communications meet or exceed these minimum standards.

    - Link: Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards

    - Last Approved: September 18 , 2012

# SIEC Recommended Change 1

- Change the minimum channel display requirement from 7 to 8 characters (except for VHF)

- Original: Minimum character display: 7

- Proposed: Minimum character display: 8

- Justification: Increasing to 8 characters is necessary for UHF and 800 MHz interoperable channels to be programmed following the standard naming convention. Two channels in the Interoperable Channels Plan require 8 characters:

  - 8AZTAC5D

  - UCALL40D

- The SIEC recommends keeping the VHF character limit at 7 characters as many Fire Districts utilize a Bendix King radio model with only 7 characters. None of the VHF interoperable channels require more than 7 characters.

# SIEC Recommended Change 2

- Add section on Multi-Band radios to the standard, including a footnote stipulating that multiband radios without 700/800 MHz frequency bands only need to be P25 capable

- Original: No standard for Multi-Band radios

- Proposed: Add Multi-Band requirements to standard

| BAND | MINIMUM CHANNEL | CHANNEL DISPLAY | FREQUENCY RANGE | NARROWBAND CAPABLE | PROJECT 25 |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Multi-Band | 48 CH OR GREATER | 8 CHAR OR GREATER | Variable | REQUIRED | REQUIRED* |

- Justification: A standard did not exist for Multi-Band radios. The proposed standard for Multi-Band radios mirrors the standard for 700/800 MHz radios with one exception – Multi-Band radios without 700/800 MHz frequency bands only need to be P25 capable.

# Additional Changes

- Additional changes to the document include:
  - Spelling and grammar corrections
  - Added new definitions section
  - Added new reference section
  - Changed format to comply with new standardized PSP Style Template

- Suggested changes not included:
  - Increase minimum channels standard from 48 to 128. The current standard allows for 16 interoperable channels and 32 operable channels.
    - » Increasing the minimum standard would require certain agencies to purchase more expensive radios for additional channel capacity that their agency may not need.
  - Expand the VHF Frequency Range to include federal frequencies: 136 – 144 MHz and 148-150 MHZ. The current minimum standard includes only 150 – 174 MHz.
    - » Increasing the minimum standards would require agencies who have no interaction with federal agencies to purchase radios with additional range

# Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan

- The Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan establishes requirements and/or recommendations for programming of statewide interoperable channels into subscriber units and to provide guidance on the use of the interoperable channels during day-to-day and emergency use. The Plan is intended to standardize and increase interoperable communications throughout the state in the VHF, UHF, 700 and 800 MHz bands. It is suggested that the each agency incorporate these channels into their channel plan, train their users on their use, and utilize these channels during training, exercises and events involving multiple agencies and jurisdictions to assure proficiency.

  - Link: Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan

  - Last Approved: January 11, 2012

# SIEC Recommended Change 1

- Change the title of the policy

- Original: Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan

- Proposed: Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide

- Justification:  While the Priority Programming Guide is posted as a stand alone file on the PSIC website as an easy reference document, it is not a separate standard. To avoid confusion, the document is now titled: Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide

# SIEC Recommended Change 2

- Remove outdated footnote from Priority Programming Guide tables

- Original:  National Public Safety Telecommunications Council ANSII nomenclature standard also consistent with NIFOG and NECP Goal I, II & III. Public safety professionals nationwide are adopting these naming conventions.

- Proposed: Removed Footnote

- Justification: Language was originally included to explain why a naming standard was necessary. This language is now obsolete.

# SIEC Recommened Change 3

- Revise footnote in the Priority Programming Guide tables

- Original:  Program in mixed mode receive, where possible.

- Recommendation: Radios capable of being programmed in analog, digital or mixed modes should use mixed mode for receive, where possible.

- Justification: Suggested wording further clarifies footnote.

# SIEC Recommended Change 4

- Add a subsection for *Restrictions on the use of 8AZTAC5 and 8AZTAC5D* information to the 800 MHz Priority Programming Guide table

- Original:  N/A

- Proposed: See *Restrictions on the use of 8AZTAC5 and 8AZTAC5D*

- Justification:  The language was originally in the AIRS SOP.  This language has now been moved to this document.

# Additional Changes

- Additional changes to the document include:

  - Spelling and grammar corrections

  - Added new background section

  - Added new definitions section

  - Added new reference section

  - Changed format to comply with new standardized PSP Style Template

# Questions / Discussion

- As part of your next agenda item, the SIEC recommends the PSCC approve the Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards and the Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide as presented in the Approval Drafts.

- Next Meeting:
  Tuesday January 21, 2014
  10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  ADOA 3rd Floor Conference Room
  100 N. 15th Avenue
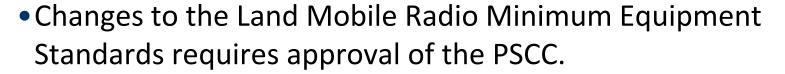  Phoenix, AZ 85007

  **Thank You!**

# Annual Review of Technical Policies, Standards and Procedures (PSP)

Glade Jarman, Project Manager, PSIC Office



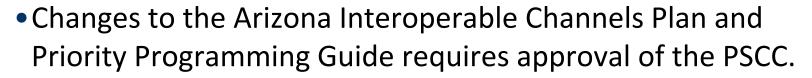Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office

# Action Item #1

- Changes to the Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards requires approval of the PSCC.

    - Taking no action, or a vote rejecting the proposed changes to the Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards, will result in the current version of the Standard remaining in effect.

    - Approving the proposed changes will result in the new standard going into effect.

- Suggested Motion: Recommend the PSCC approve the Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards as presented in the Approval Draft.
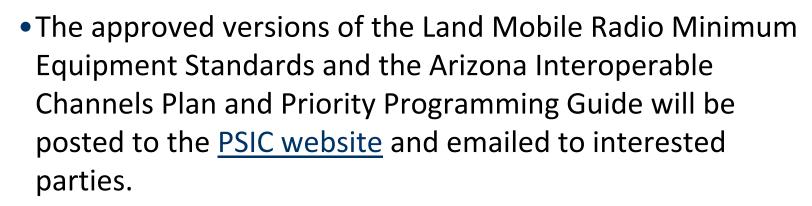
# Action Item #2

- Changes to the Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide requires approval of the PSCC.

  - Taking no action, or a vote rejecting the proposed changes, will result in the current version remaining in effect.

  - Approving the proposed changes will result in the new Plan going into effect.

- Suggested Motion: Recommend the PSCC approve the Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide  as presented in the Approval Draft.

# Next Steps

- The approved versions of the Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards and the Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide will be posted to the PSIC website and emailed to interested parties.

- October – December Quarterly PSP Review: New PSP development if needed.

  - No additional PSPs identified at this time

# Questions / Discussion

**Thank You!**

**Glade Jarman**

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